



## Strange Stories: Fig Tree

### Matthew 21:18-22

*In the morning, as Jesus was returning to Jerusalem, he was hungry, and he noticed a fig tree beside the road. He went over to see if there were any figs, but there were only leaves. Then he said to it, "May you never bear fruit again!" And immediately the fig tree withered up. The disciples were amazed when they saw this and asked, "How did the fig tree wither so quickly?" Then Jesus told them, "I tell you the truth, if you have faith and don't doubt, you can do things like this and much more. You can even say to this mountain, 'May you be lifted up and thrown into the sea,' and it will happen. You can pray for anything, and if you have faith, you will receive it."*

### God's Story:

*Matthew 21:12-22*

### Fruit matters

*Matthew 7:15-20; 12:33; Luke 13:6-9; 2 Peter 3:9; Matthew 15:1-9; 23*

- I am created to bear fruit

### How to be fruitful:

- Plant yourself in proximity to God and His people  
*Psalms 1:1-3*
- Faithfully remain with Jesus  
*John 15:1-17; John 1:45-51*

**Questions/Topics for this week:**

1. What does it look like in your own life to “bear good fruit?”
2. Are there any examples of “bad fruit” being produced in your life?
3. What does it look like to plant yourself in proximity to God and his people? How are you doing in this area? What changes could you make, if needed?

**Be Intentional:**

This week intentionally be in proximity to God and his people. Find ways to spend time with him and others who can encourage you and help keep you accountable.

**Pray:**

Spend time praying together. What are some ways in which you can pray for each other? Take some time in the coming week to explore ways in which you can encourage one another. Remember to share with your group what you are learning about those opportunities and reflect on God’s Word as you pray for each other.